

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-8, 18, and 19, without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 9-12, 15-17, 20, and 21, as indicated in the following listing of claims, which replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An order assembly production method comprising:
preparing manufacturing schedules of every predetermined periods of time which are included in several months based on the basis of a demand forecast on a predetermined period basis that is shorter than a monthly basis, reviewing the manufacturing schedules every predetermined period while excepting a manufacturing schedule of a predetermined period from a target to be reviewed, the manufacturing schedules of the several months being updated every predetermined period while fixing the manufacturing schedule of one or more recent predetermined periods and issuing the reviewed updated manufacturing schedules of several months;

calculating the number of order-acceptable products for ~~[[each]]~~ the recent predetermined periods ~~period excepted from the reviewed target~~ and the scheduled number of products to be manufactured for each ~~subsequent~~ predetermined period succeeding the recent predetermined periods on the basis of the ~~reviewed~~ updated manufacturing schedules; and

making a response about delivery time to a customer with reference to the calculated number of order-acceptable products.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the number of days of the predetermined period ~~basis that is shorter than the monthly basis is~~ arbitrarily set.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the ~~reviewed~~ updated manufacturing schedules are issued by a business department system and the number of order-acceptable products and the scheduled number of products are calculated by a manufacturing department system.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein when the ~~reviewed~~ updated manufacturing schedules issued from the business department system is not realized, the manufacturing department system returns the fact to the business department system to request to further change the reviewed manufacturing schedules.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the manufacturing department system presents delivery time information for each predetermined period basis to the business department system.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the manufacturing department system presents delivery time information for each sales route, for each product model, and for each predetermined period basis to the business department system.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the manufacturing department system deposits the procured parts as a ~~vender~~ vendor managed inventory.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein said ~~vender~~ vendor managed inventory includes a general-purpose intermediate product which can be used in common to a plurality of products.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein when the number of order-acceptable products is smaller than the number of products predetermined in the manufacturing schedule of the predetermined period, the business department system allocates the number of order-acceptable products between sales ~~[[routes]]~~ routes.

18-19. (Canceled).

20. (Currently Amended) An order assembly production system comprising:

a first system which prepares manufacturing schedules of every predetermined periods of time which are included in several months based on the basis of a demand forecast on a predetermined period basis, the manufacturing schedules of the several months being updated every predetermined period while fixing the manufacturing schedule of one or more recent predetermined periods ~~that is shorter than a monthly basis and reviews the manufacturing schedules every predetermined period while excepting a manufacturing schedule of a predetermined period from a target to be reviewed; and~~

a second system which issues a procurement instruction of parts based on the basis of the reviewed updated manufacturing schedules and makes a response about the number of order-acceptable products for ~~[[each]]~~ the recent predetermined periods ~~period excepted from the reviewed target and the scheduled number of products to be manufactured for each subsequent predetermined period~~ succeeding the recent predetermined periods on the basis of the ~~reviewed~~ updated manufacturing schedules to the first system,

wherein the first system makes a response about delivery time to a customer with reference to the number of order-acceptable products.

21. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 20, wherein the number of days of the predetermined period ~~basis that is shorter than the monthly basis is~~ arbitrarily set.